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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Vice-Chairman:
Executive Committee of
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Committee

COLORADO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL

DENVER

80203

July 6, 2011

Senator Orin Hatch United States Senate 104 Hart Senate Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 20510 Senator Mike Lee United States Senate 316 Hart Senate Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Hatch and Lee:

I write today expressing my strong support for a Constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal budget. As the Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, I will devote my time and energy to secure the votes necessary for ratification if Congress sends the states a Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution.

It is vital that Congress pass a Balanced Budget Amendment. Quite simply, a Balanced Budget Amendment is the only mechanism to ensure that Congress gets federal spending under control. Without it, America will spend itself into insolvency and will continue to irresponsibly mortgage our future. To prevent the grave harm that will come to our nation from a debt crisis and to ensure that Congress spends no more than it takes in, Congress and the state legislatures must act to amend the United States Constitution to require a balanced federal budget.

In fact, during our last legislative session, the Colorado House of Representatives passed House Joint Resolution 11-1017 calling on Congress to take the very important step of requiring a balanced federal budget. I urge you to move quickly this year to pass a Balanced Budget Amendment so that I can begin working with my colleagues to secure ratification.

Colorado Speaker of the House